

L-0013

E&G PETERSON

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**FAX**

TO: MICHAEL COLLINS  
DEPT OF ENERGY

FROM: E & G PETERSON  
9600 S. Bank Dr.  
Roseburg, OR 97470-9482  
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FAX #: 1-509-372-1926

SUBJECT: HANFORD WASTE.

DATE SENT: 5/8/03 PAGES: 1/1

9600 South Bank Drive  
Roseburg, Oregon 97470-7707  
(FAX-Phone 541/672-0932)

5-8-03

FAX 1-509-372-1926  
Department of Energy  
Attn: Michael Collins

Dear Sir;

**1**

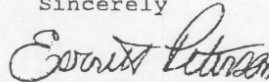
I am very concerned about 70,000 trucks with nuclear waste traveling across our nation from all directions in the U.S. to Washington, Hanford nuclear waste area.

We must have 5 or 10 depositories nationwide and each waste must be transported to the nearest depository. This will minimize in transit crisis, and additionally reduce the volume or the materials in any one area.

**2**

Also important is that Hanford area needs ground water detection devices and impervious ground protection covers in critical areas.

Sincerely

  
Everett Peterson

May 12, 2003

Michael Collins  
HSW EIS Document Manager  
Richland Operations  
U.S. Department of Energy  
PO Box 550  
Richland, WA 99352

Comments Regarding Revised Draft  
Hanford Site Solid Waste Program EIS

The following comments were prepared for presentation at the May 1, public meeting as local community views on the subject Draft EIS. However, they were not presented at the meeting and are submitted herewith for inclusion in the record of public comment period.

The first draft of this EIS, which was released for public comment last year, was generally considered to be inadequate. The current draft EIS is a significant improvement; however, there are still a number of issues related to waste disposal and treatment at Hanford, which are not adequately addressed. Some of these are noted below.

Due to the limited time between the release of the EIS and this hearing for review of the draft EIS, the following comments are preliminary in nature and may be supplemented by additional comments at a later date.

**1** | The primary issue to be addressed in this EIS is “will all wastes at Hanford be managed properly and safely?” The current draft of the EIS does not provide convincing evidence in response to this question.

**2** | We do not categorically oppose the importation, treatment, and disposal of wastes from other sites at Hanford, so long as assurance is provided that the wastes can be safely handled and disposed of in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. This must be accomplished without the delay of or budget impacts on Hanford cleanup programs.

Hanford cleanup programs are based upon the disposal of significant quantities of Hanford wastes at other sites. It logically follows that Hanford should expect to receive wastes from other sites, which it is, equipped to handle.

**3** | The “no action” alternative is clearly unacceptable for a number of public health and safety reasons. Information is not provided to clearly show the environmental and public health safety impacts of this alternative. DOE must adopt and follow policies to treat and dispose of all wastes

## L-0014 (contd)

- 4** | in accordance with regulatory requirements. Unlined trenches must not be utilized for the future disposal of any wastes.

In general we support the preferred alternative in the draft EIS, so long as all applicable disposable regulations are complied with, including the use of lined trenches for the disposal of all wastes.

We support the Washington Department of Ecology's recent regulatory action, court actions, and correspondence with the Department regarding waste disposal issues at Hanford. We specifically endorse compliance with the disposal requirements contained in the WDOE letter and attachment of August 21, 2002 regarding the initial draft of this EIS.

- 5** | While we agree that the existing wastes, which were disposed of in unlined trenches at Hanford should be left as is except where release problems have or will be identified; i.e. carbon tetrachloride release from 200 W Area burial grounds. When problems are found they must be promptly corrected. Any new wastes must be disposed of in lined trenches. Analyses must be provided to verify the regulatory acceptability at leaving the wastes in the unlined trenches. The current draft does not adequately address this issue.

- 6** | The issue of the pre-1970 TRU wastes must be addressed. Unless it can be clearly shown that these wastes are not now or in the future hazardous to the public, they must be removed, repackaged and properly disposed of. The current draft EIS does not address this issue.

- 7** | The importation of TRU wastes from other DOE sites for repackaging, certification, and storage prior to shipment offsite for disposal is acceptable. Permanent disposal of these wastes at Hanford is not acceptable. Funding must be provided for the cost of facilities to perform these functions and the related operational costs.

- 8** | The potential disposal of low level and mixed waste in the chemical processing canyons is supported, provided that engineering studies and environmental analyses support the validity of this concept.

If new or expanded facilities for the repacking and certification of both low level and mixed wastes are needed at Hanford, they should be provided as expeditiously as possible.

- 10** | Provisions must be made in DOE planning for long-term stewardship of the site through some process other than annual appropriations, such as trust funds, tipping fees, or other sources of protected funding.

- 11** | The 618-10 and 11 waste disposal sites must be addressed as priority items due to their proximity to Energy Northwest facilities and the Columbia River.

- 12** | We support the continued disposal of naval reactor compartments at Hanford and the disposal of commercial nuclear wastes in the US Ecology burial ground.

L-0014 (contd)

- 13** | The proposed disposal of the K Basin sludge as TRU wastes following interim storage of the wastes in the T Plant has not been adequately analyzed. The Environmental Assessment (EA), which was prepared several years ago for the packaging and movement of the sludge to the T Plant for interim storage did not address the processing and packaging of these wastes for disposal at the WIPP. Information must be provided regarding the acceptability of these materials for disposal of WIPP.
- 14** | The Department of Energy must give additional attention and support to the transportation of wastes and nuclear materials between DOE sites. Significant public concerns exist regarding these programs. Although the Department's programs and safety records are exemplary, the public has serious concerns regarding these shipments, which must be addressed.
- 15** | Any final decision regarding low level and mixed waste disposal and shipment between sites must be based upon risk based analyses and long-term site utilization planning options.

The Department must carefully consider the public input received on the EIS and other related issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our views on this subject.

Respectfully submitted,



Harold W. Heacock  
760 South Tacoma  
Kennewick, WA 99336

Copy to: Yvonne Sherman, DOE-RL

L-0015

May 10, 2003

Yvonne Sherman  
USDOE-Richland, PO Box 550  
A7-75,  
Richland, WA 99362

Regarding the proposed transporting of radioactive waste to Hanford:

- 1** The current stated mission of Hanford is cleanup. It makes no sense to double the amount of radioactive and transuranic chemical waste being received, and then to bury it in unlined trenches. The legacy of groundwater contamination is frightening and unthinkable.
- 2** It is imperative to put the health and well being of future generations ahead of the immediate profit and rampant politics of the Energy department and the Ecology department regarding Hanford.

Do what is right.

Sincerely,



Candace Rose  
805 ½ North Main  
Walla Walla, WA 99362

**RECEIVED**

MAY 14 2003

**DOE-RL/RLCC**